Accenture Innovation Challenge – Frequently asked Questions (FAQs)

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1. **How do I apply for the contest?**

Entries will be accepted through an online form as available on the contest website – www.accenture.com/india/innovationchallenge. During the entry period the participants need to complete the online entry form and submit it along with the original idea related to the given innovation categories of 1. Innovate for Businesses, 2. Innovate for the Society. Participants are encouraged to leverage new-age technologies while shaping their innovation. It's also desirable to upload supporting documents and videos that help explain the idea further.

2. **What are the eligibility criteria for participating in the contest?**

All full-time undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students in India, who are 18 years of age or older are eligible to participate. The participants can either be an individual; or teams of up to 4 participants from the same college or different colleges, provided that each member of the team meets these eligibility criteria.

3. **Can working professionals apply for the contest?**

No, the contest is open only to students.

4. **Can I participate as an individual?**

Yes, you can participate as an individual. You could also participate in teams of two, three or four members.

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5. What are the dates of the contest?

Accenture Innovation Challenge is open from 2ⁿᵈ July until 12ᵗʰ August (both days inclusive). If there is any extension of the deadline, it will be called out on the contest website.

6. What is the theme of the contest?

The themes for the contest are 1. Innovate for Businesses, 2. Innovate for the Society. You need to choose either one.

7. What are the prizes?

- Each team member of the grand prize winner will get prizes worth INR 1,50,000
- Each team member of the theme category prize winner (a. 'Innovate for Businesses' and b. 'Innovate for the Society' will get prizes worth INR 75,000
- There may be other prize categories that we introduce later on

All eligible participants of the grand finale will be given a chance to participate in a fast-track recruitment process with Accenture.

8. What is the selection procedure?

Upon receiving the entries, in August 2017, an initial jury will collate the list of entries and evaluate the same based on pre-defined evaluation criteria to determine the final scores to all the qualified entries. Based on the scores that the entries would receive from initial screening, the top teams will need to undergo an online challenge that would be conducted in the month of September. Scores from the online challenge will be considered along with the initial score given by the jury, and then the further shortlisting would be done. The teams in the final short-list will be invited to the grand finale.

9. What are the criteria on of which my idea will be evaluated?

Each submission will be evaluated on the basis of three criteria – Innovativeness, technical feasibility and Impact.

10. Do I need to have a working prototype of my idea?

No, just an idea relevant to the chosen themes is sufficient to participate. However, entries that comprise of working prototypes are more likely to get shortlisted. If you do have a working prototype, then share relevant information about it when submitting your entry.

11. Are multiple entries allowed from the same team?

Yes, multiple entries are allowed from the same team.

12. Can students from different colleges be part of the same team?

Yes, students from multiple colleges can be grouped into a single team.

13. Will I be allowed to edit my entry after I submit it?

No, you will not be able to edit your entry after you submit it. So make sure you fill in all pertinent details about your team and innovation before you click 'Submit'. In case you miss out on any detail, then submit one more entry with the same innovation name. We will consider the latest submission for screening.

14. Will Accenture use my idea anywhere? Or will they implement it in real life?

The intellectual property of the idea remains with the participant. But please note that Accenture may already possess or have developed products or services similar to those ideas submitted through the entries.

15. Will Accenture fund my innovation?

We do not commit to any funding at this point in time. However, if your idea is relevant to us, we could make a decision later to mentor/fund it.

16. How do I stay updated on the contest?

Stay updated on the contest through SMS and e-mail alerts. Register your details on the 'Stay Updated' section of the contest page to receive these alerts.

17. Where can I refer to some of the ideas that have been submitted in previous editions of the contest?

Click on 'Get Inspired' tab on the contest website. You can view all the innovations that were shortlisted for the grand finale last year.

18. If I have queries related to the contest that are not covered in this document, what do I do?

There's a live chat facility on the contest website. We are live at certain slots on specific days of the week, as updated in the 'About the contest' page of the site. You could also send in your query when the chat is offline. We will revert as soon as possible.